# *Executive Proclamation*
## *State of South Dakota*
## *Office of the Governor*

***WHEREAS***, The community that is South Dakota is the sum of its parts, and Gertrude Genevieve Goebel Gross chose to make South Dakota her home, the state in which she lives, befriends, works, gardens, loves, and worships, and we are richer because Gert lives among us; and,

***WHEREAS***, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and for Gertrude Genevieve that was March 21, 1903, in Potter County, as the first of ten children born to Mathias and Mary Goebel; and,

***WHEREAS***, We celebrate the birthdays of those we love to commemorate the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and we acknowledge Gert's guiding influence along the way as she married Emil Gross on June 28, 1922, and later gave life and love to two sons and ten daughters who went on to procreate 47 grandchildren, who begot over 60 great-grandchildren, as well as extending the family tree to more than 20 great-great grandchildren; and,

***WHEREAS***, We admire Gert's devotion to family, including the very special care she gives her pets, and we recognize her steadfast dedication to being the best pickle maker around and to her past jobs at the Johnny Moore Hardware and Ben Franklin Stores in Gettysburg in order to provide her dirty dozen with clothing and food that could not be harvested in her huge gardens; and,

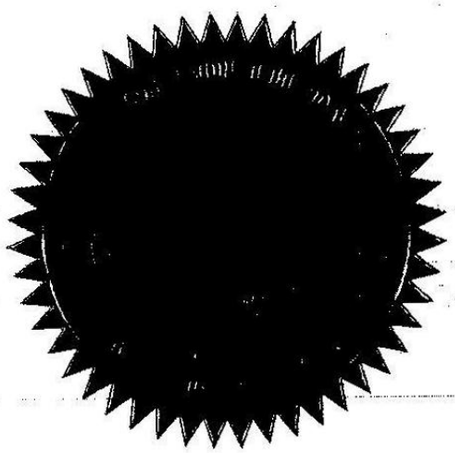
***WHEREAS***, Gertrude Genevieve Goebel Gross will observe her 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her neighbors, card-playing friends, and relatives enjoy with her the camaraderie of the day; and,

***WHEREAS***, It is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, M. MICHAEL ROUNDS***, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 21, 2003, as

## *GERTRUDE GROSS DAY*

in South Dakota, and I join all her many friends and relatives in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



***In Witness Whereof***, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Sixth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

**Attest:**

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State